

Guard State Secrets That Would Mean War if Revealed

VERY Branch and Department of Government Has Ever Transacted Most Vital Business Behind Closed Doors—Cabinet Secrets and Secret Session Leaks—An Attempt to Get a Tip From the Supreme Court—Secret Funds and Secret Ciphers Employed in Several Departments—Five Separate Spy Systems Employed in Time of Peace—Secrets for Which Speculators Would Pay Millions

John Elfreth Watkins

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 8.

State secrets are as thick as the files that plagued old Pharaoh.

The state department's "secret fund" is the spotlight as a result of the trial case, inherited from a past generation, and the probe of a zealous committee has laid bare the fact that the state department has had the right to ask how their money was spent this \$30,000 annual appropriation to meet "unforeseen expenses" and to extend the commerce and other interests of the United States.

The statute books have long read a little paragraph authorizing the use of state to keep hidden such things out of this fund "as he may deem advisable not to specify." These thousands are spent, year after year, in a state secret, deep secret, that they have been upon to pay diplomatic spies, for into the plots and plans of our rivals; also that portions have been used in foreign clinics to mold opinion in favor of certain American policies. But who really knows how several living men who, in the past, have been entrusted with the most mysterious privy purse, and who never reveal their lips. By so doing they might involve us in bloody foreign wars.

The employment of this "secret fund" which the head of the cabinet account as suggested is but one of the state secrets deeply hidden in the executive bosom of Uncle Sam.

Branch and department possessions more or less depend, for it is upon the security with which the state secret how our foundations of government were laid. Like the work upon the dreadnought which they amazed their foreign builders of our ship of state, behind an impenetrable fence of secrecy, the delegates of the convention carried its secrets to their graves.

State secrets

The same screen of secrecy has always surrounded the president's meetings with his confidential advisers and the proceedings of the cabinet are secret, but are confidential, a former member of that body, sometimes he authorizes an announce-

ment by the head of the department to which the subject matter pertains. But with these exceptions the seal of confidence rests on the deliberations of the cabinet.

Not even the president's secretary is admitted to the cabinet board, and no member who will divulge any of its secrets, even in memoirs, written generations later, would be disgraced in the eyes of his fellow men.

And the veil is as closely drawn over the recommendations which the president is about to make in his messages, upon which the stock market rises or falls, especially in these days of trust busting and tariff tinkering. Vast are the riches which could often be earned by a Wall street speculator trading upon advance information obtained through a "message leak."

Message secrets are safeguarded in this way. One of the president's trusted messengers bears the manuscript under a cover to the public printer, who immediately distributes it among the newspaper editors in fragments so small that no single reporter could possibly gain head or tail of any paragraph's gist. Then comes the final assembling of type under the eye of a trusted employee of long-tried reliability, and the pressmen who handle the paper issued after a careful count—printing of each page of the precious document.

The only important message leak of recent times occurred in Hayes's administration, before these safeguards were instituted. The precursor of the advance copy is said to have sold it to speculators for several thousand dollars.

Court Works in Secret

The supreme court sits beneath the rose while framing all of its decisions, even more vital to Wall street than the president's recommendations, upon which congress may or may not act, as vox populi seems to dictate. But the justices of the supreme court have the last say as to whether this trust or that should be dissolved, or this or that law—otherwise affecting vast corporations—shall stand. Wall street would have given hundreds of thousands of dollars, in any recent year, for advance information as to verdicts of the supreme tribunal.

The verdicts of the court are voted each Saturday during sessions in the "conference room" in the basement of the capitol, and while the conference is in progress, all vessels and power boats, including all the important yacht clubs on the coast, will participate. This hotel is the recognized headquarters, and the center of all social activities. Surf bathing now ideal. Write for reservations to Carl Stanley, Mgr.

From the good wide verandas and beautiful grounds of the absolutely fireproof

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The following announcements of California's most celebrated hotels, health and summer resorts will solve the problem. Literature and additional information will be furnished promptly at our Free Information Bureau or by direct.

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Full of merriment. YOU SHOULD HAVE EARLY AND STAY LATE ON THE ISLAND OF COUNTLESS BEACHES. THE RESORT WITH IDEAL DRY MARINE CLIMATE.

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YOU enjoy the most comfortable accommodation. Water. Everything sanitary. To all attractions an outdoor. The tents are under large trees.

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Swimming, bathing in the beautiful and bathing in the beautiful. Fishing, tennis, golf. Concerts at night. Large cool rooms, luxuriously furnished. Large cool rooms, luxuriously furnished. Large cool rooms, luxuriously furnished.

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Most complete for housekeeping. Most complete for housekeeping. Most complete for housekeeping. Most complete for housekeeping. Most complete for housekeeping.

Regatta Month at LONG BEACH

CALIFORNIA'S COOLEST BEACH. There will be a fleet of white sail boats and power boats representing the leading Yacht Clubs on the Coast. WILL BE THE LARGEST REGATTA EVER HELD HERE. LONG BEACH OFFERS A THOUSAND PLEASURES TO DIVERT AND AMUSE. Has the largest Bath House in California.

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YOU will get a magnificent view of the various yacht races, which take place directly in front of the Virginia. A fleet of white sail vessels and power boats, representing all the important Yacht Clubs on the coast, will participate. This hotel is the recognized headquarters, and the center of all social activities. Surf bathing now ideal. Write for reservations to Carl Stanley, Mgr.

A SUMMER RESORT WHERE OCEAN BREEZES ARE TEMPERED BY REFRESHING MOUNTAIN AIR.

Altitude just right. Latest methods of treatment. Beautiful grounds. Reasonable rates. 20 minutes ride by electric car from Los Angeles. Write for colored Booklet A. Address Glendale Sanatorium, Glendale, Cal., or apply at Salt Lake Tribune Office.

STATE CAPITOL, BOISE, IDAHO.

Sealed proposals for the construction of a capitol complete (excepting plumbing, gas fitting, heating apparatus, electric conduits and wiring) for the state capitol building, to be received by the board of capitol commissioners at the state treasurer's office until 3 o'clock p. m. July 27, 1911.

JOHN E. WILKIE
Chief of Secret Service



ice water and stationery. They must even descend now to the indignity of sharpening their own pencils and filling their own fountain pens.

No tourists are ever allowed even a peep at this room of mystery, nor has a photographer ever been permitted to make a picture of it. Then this secret chamber the Forbidden City of Peking was never more impenetrable, even in the days when Tsi-An was at the height of her glory.

While the financial world with bated breath waited some time ago the court's verdict on a great anti-trust case, the assembled justices whether the finding would be generally favorable or unfavorable to the corporation involved. This "tip" the correspondent was instructed to step up to the bench on decision day and ask one of the justices whether the finding would be generally favorable or unfavorable to the corporation involved. This "tip" the correspondent was instructed to step up to the bench on decision day and ask one of the justices whether the finding would be generally favorable or unfavorable to the corporation involved.

The legislative as well as the executive and judicial branches of our government transact considerable business behind closed doors. When the senate locks its door in secret session there is an exodus of pages and employees, save several officers who have been put under oath to forever guard any secrets which they may overhear. These are the discreet and arms, four assistants and the "executive clerks" who keep the vague record of the proceedings. Only two persons may now pass the threshold—the clerk of the house and the assistant secretary of the president, if they bear messages to the senate. But all proceedings are hushed when

they are announced and they depart not a lot wiser than when they entered.

The darkest of these executive session secrets pertain to treaties with foreign powers and the frankness of speech with which they are discussed would often lead to international complications, if made public.

Executive Session Leaks

The most serious executive session "leak" occurred when our treaty annexing Mexico was under discussion. A copy of that instrument, as well as of the President's message and some confidential papers accompanying it, was alleged to have been delivered to a newspaper by a senator. An investigating committee was appointed, but the matter was later smoothed over. The last serious "leak" occurred in 1892, when certain newspapers gave accurate reports of an executive session, including the vote in detail. A "smelling committee" was appointed, and the chief executive clerk was made the scapegoat and dismissed, although afterwards exonerated, and to congress and later given a responsible government office, which he still retains.

That the house also may hold secret sessions when it wishes to withhold knowledge of its debates from the public, is not generally known for the reason that the privilege has seldom been embraced.

The state department is a vast repository of secrets, and its every important transaction is made under the seal of secrecy. Our diplomats undertake their missions under secret instructions and communicate with the secretary of state by a secret cipher code especially devised for the department.

A year or two ago, when a copy of the code was stolen, an entire navy system had to be adopted at considerable expense to the government. A thief ran down the steel filing cabinets of the department of state and distributed its secret archives broadcast would involve us in diplomatic entanglements from which it might be impossible to extricate ourselves without endless war.

Periodically there are published in official "red books" certain of our diplomatic correspondence, selected because deemed harmless or treating of events which have safely "blown over." Were the full correspondence of any one year thus published each male civilian of the land might well anticipate a draft for military service.

Names Never Known

The personnel of the famous "secret service" is one of the state secrets of the treasury department, confined by the secretary of the organization only to the secretary of the treasury or the president. Other employees of the government must be listed in the official blue book, but the names of these hundreds of detectives are missing from that directory. The amount of the annual secret service fund of \$135,000 that goes to pay their \$4 to \$5 a day is accounted for only to the head of the department and no one can venture a guess at any time as to the distribution or numbers of this shadowy army of sleuths.

How custom house agents are made aware of purchases by Americans in foreign shops is another state secret of the treasury department. Sufficient is it to know the dimensions and the color of our wealthy tourists are liable to carry home with them is regularly reported by a mysterious corps of spies scattered over the continent and captured by "confidential agents" stationed at five points in Europe, and another in the Orient.

With as grave secrecy the treasury guards the identity of persons who inform revenue agents of the location of "moonshiners." Any man, woman or child who gives a clue leading to the capture of such an illicit establishment, may, without fear of betrayal by Uncle Sam, enjoy the \$10 uniformly given for such information. His name will never be recorded by the treasury bookkeepers, nor even upon a memorandum filed away by the revenue officials.

The time when gold is to be shipped to the United States and the treasury and sub-treasuries is always a dark state secret shared only by the most trusted guardians of Uncle Sam's strong box.

To intrust such information to the ordinary telegraph might prove a means of warning train robbers, so a secret tele-

graphic cipher code is used to transmit this vital intelligence.

Both the army and navy, too, have their secret cipher codes, all ready for use should war break out tomorrow, and officers entrusted with their keys would be guilty of treason if communicating the secret to an outsider. Every war vessel of the fleet bears a code book inclosed in a perforated case of lead, weighted to carry it straight to the bottom should the vessel be boarded or found to be filling. And strict are the instructions demanding this precaution of sinking the secret book whenever it thus faces the danger of falling into the enemy's hands.

Guarding Military Secrets

The state secrets of the army and navy, easily rank, in vital importance, next to those of the state department. In the fireproof files of the war colleges are secret plans for the immediate invasion of every country with which we are at all likely to go to war. Uncle Sam will assure you that our scores of military and naval attachés scattered abroad collect their information openly and above board, but you can safely wager that they do not, with virtuous indignation, spy on safe opportunities and above all, the military secrets of the governments

to which they are accredited. It is a fact worthy of note that whereas only two of these attachés are detailed to European countries with which we do not apprehend war, we now have nine of them stationed in Japan.

HERBERT KNOX SMITH
Chief of U.S. Bureau of Corporations.



U.S. SENATE

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But of the state secrets jealously guarded by the military establishment, the most tightly sealed of all relate to our coast defenses, from which even American visitors are barred. The publication by a New York newspaper, just before the Spanish war, of a crude plan of the defenses of Washington, resulted in a change of these works at a cost of hundreds of thousands of dollars. In both the war and navy departments are secret plans and specifications for improvements in ordnance, armament and ship construction upon which the government's preparations for war largely depend. And the military proving grounds at Sandy Hook and Indian Head are hedged about by barriers which none but the initiated can penetrate when anything of interest is going on.

The mysterious net by which hundreds of army and navy deserters are caught every year is cloaked with secrecy as inky as that which protects the various corps of treasury spies. Any one who shows Uncle Sam where he can lay hands on a deserter receives \$50 for his trouble, also the assurance that his identity will be protected. And this generous fee has induced a number of individuals to take up this espionage as a specialty. Several women devote the greater part of their time to the undertaking, but who they and their brother sleuths are, or where they operate, is a state secret which Uncle Sam will never unseat.

Sleuths Everywhere

In the department of justice is an office that is as full of secrets as a girl's seminary, but—to abandon the simile—they are never leaking out. This is the "bureau of investigation," whose vast corps of detectives is continually on the hunt for such violators of the federal laws as bucket shop operators, night riders and trade restrainers. And another storehouse for official secrets is the office of chief postoffice inspectors whose closely guarded files are continually being fed with new evidence secured from a corps of detectives bent on the hunt for postal thieves, senders of naughty pictures or literature and sharps who use the mails for fraudulent business.

You would not look for state secrets in the department of agriculture, but you would find a cornucopia of them in a vast supply of them that speculators would pay a pretty penny for. Its forecasts of the size and character of our nation's crop and the weather, the panics in the speculative world, shut down plants or cut wages, while they are actually in progress, are well known values. Since premature disclosure of

this information to one man would place in his hands the power to acquire riches undreamed of by Croesus, an ingenious system is in use for giving every citizen on the land an equal chance to make use of the prognostication. As the forecasts come in from the separate states the secretary of agriculture puts them away in his safe. On the day of the monthly count the statisticians are locked in a room where the seals are broken and the final computation is made. And the key to this room is not turned until an official passes out to hand the operators of the two great telegraph companies the "flash figure," for which all of the wires in the country and the cables to the old world are being held open.

Nor is the youngest of the federal departments—that of commerce and labor—without its state secrets, deep and impenetrable. The census bureau jealously guards the most sacred of all secrets confided to it by millions of citizens—the mystery of their ages. The census employee who discloses this or any other information concerning an individual is liable to a fine of \$500.

And clock full of secrets is the chief of this department's bureau of corporations, who is authorized to investigate the conduct and management of trusts or other concerns whose products enter into interstate commerce. No authority, except the president himself, can force this functionary to divulge what he has gleaned concerning the transactions of our "manufacturers of great wealth."

Doubtless there has ever been too great secrecy involved in our administration of government. But as you have seen, the throwing open of the doors of all of our federal council chambers would—while human nature retains its present frailties—result in continuous war and panic. And until some panacea for personal greed and international envy has been discovered and effectively applied, official secrecy must continue to transact a portion of its business behind closed doors. So state secrets are liable to plague us, the throwing open of the doors of all of our federal council chambers would—while human nature retains its present frailties—result in continuous war and panic. And until some panacea for personal greed and international envy has been discovered and effectively applied, official secrecy must continue to transact a portion of its business behind closed doors. So state secrets are liable to plague us.

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Must be relieved quickly and Foley's Honey and Tar Compound will do it. E. M. Stewart, 1034 Wolfram st., Chicago, writes: "I have been greatly troubled during the hot summer months with Hay Fever and find that by using Foley's Honey and Tar Compound I get great relief." Many others who suffer similarly will be glad to benefit by Mr. Stewart's experience. Schramm, Johnson, Drugs, five stores.

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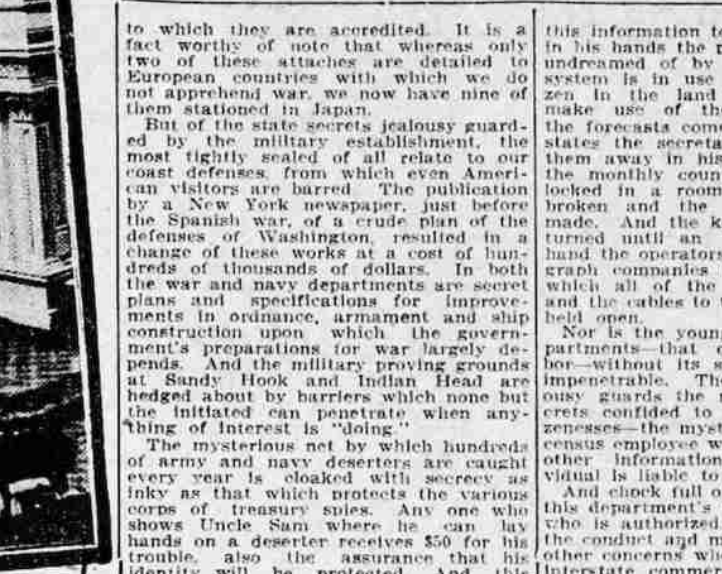
We know what Electra-Vita has done for others, and we want to prove that it can do as much for you. Here's our proposition: Take our appliance and use it in your home. If it cures, pay for it; if it doesn't, then we don't want your money. Isn't that plain enough?

Electra-Vita is a scientific device for saturating the human body with a powerful but soothing current of electric life, for hours at a time, without the least shock or unpleasant sensation. It generates a constant, unbroken stream of electricity, which it sends coursing through every nerve and tissue of the body, re-energizing vitality and strength and giving to every weak or inactive organ the power to do its work as nature intended. When your body has sufficient electric energy to satisfy the demands of nature, weakness and disease can not exist. Electra-Vita is a self-charged battery for home use. It is not like electric belts, faradic batteries and other contrivances you may have seen or used.

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We don't want money that we don't earn. If Electra-Vita doesn't cure you, don't pay. We have an appliance that does the work, and we are willing to take all the risk.

D.S. RANDELL
SERGEANT-AT-ARMS
U.S. SENATE.



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Mr. R. C. Crocker, Placerville, Cal., says: "I am thoroughly satisfied with the work of Electra-Vita in my case. I used the appliance for weakness and a complication of ailments, and it has accomplished even more than I expected."

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